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Statement submitted by Zenab for Women in Development, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

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Statement

Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results

As representatives of a women's grass roots organization, we would like to raise our voice and inform world leaders about our concern regarding the implementation of the SDGs. Unless there is real change in the approach, there will be no change and millions will left behind like with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

To have results, we need effective mechanisms and adequate resources. This is why to realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), women and girls have to be empowered.

First, we need education. We need to have a Trust Fund for girls' education and adult education. Education is a key to empowerment. The illiteracy rate is still very high in many countries. Also, grass roots organizations and their groups have to be at the front line of implementation. They need to be empowered by building their capacity, raising their awareness and increasing resources.